Renewal of Passes issued to Freedom fighters

804. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways had issued free Passes to freedom fighters last year;

(b) if so, whether these passes were meant only for a certain specified period or for life; and

(c) if for life, what are the reasons for not renewing the same after the expiry of one year or specified period in case of some delay in applying for the renewal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the scheme finalised in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, who are bearing the cost of these passes, passes were meant only for a specified period, namely 1 year, for the purpose of issue/renewal.

(c) The last date for grant/renewal of these passes, fixed in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, having been over, the passes cannot be renewed/issued now.

Poor condition of National Highways in Orissa

805. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the poor condition of National Highways passing through Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government propose to make some more roads in the State as National Highways in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The condition of National Highways including those in Orissa is generally traffic worthy. Their development is a continuous process and improvements are carried out subject to availability of funds.

(d) No, Sir.

Development of Jharsuguda Airstrip

806. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop the Jharsuguda airstrip in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Paradip Port with the help of Hyundai Corporation of South Korea

807. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hyundai Corporation of South Korea has submitted a detailed project for the integrated development of Paradip Port;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Orissa and Railways have submitted